

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A computer system comprising:

a central processing unit (CPU);

memory coupled to the CPU; and

a configuration mechanism coupled to the CPU for storing customization information

for the computer system, wherein the CPU retrieves during a first system boot the

customization information in the configuration mechanism to automatically customize the computer system.

2. The computer system of claim 1, wherein the configuration mechanism is a PCI

adapter that includes at least one communication port.

3. The computer system of claim 2, wherein the customization information is

download from a server to the configuration mechanism via the at least one communication port.

4. The computer system of claim 3, wherein the at least one communication port is

an Ethernet port coupled to a LAN.

5. The computer system of claim 4 wherein the server is coupled to the LAN.

6. A system for customizing a computer system comprising:

a configuration mechanism in the computer system, wherein the configuration

mechanism is configured to receive and store customization information for the computer system, and wherein the computer is configured to retrieve the customization information in the configuration mechanism to automatically customize the computer system.

5           7. The system of claim 6 wherein the configuration mechanism is a PCI adapter that is configured to plug into the computer system.

8. The system of claim 7 wherein the configuration mechanism includes at least one communication port.

10           9. The system of claim 8 wherein the customization information is download from a server to the configuration mechanism via the at least one communication port.

15           10. The system of claim 9 wherein the at least one communication port is an Ethernet port coupled to a LAN.

11. The system of claim 10 wherein the server is coupled to the LAN.

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